10: Hilger E-5 (1946-1952) 1957
SG4 Araucanians SG4
Chile

Eye measurements (approximate) are used in selecting a tree from which oxcart wheels are to be made. "Any man who knows how to make a wheel knows that the tree minus the bark must make wheels large enough to keep the oxcart from hitting high spots in oxcart trails." An informant indicated by eye, on a table, the length and width of a bird trap. Two Alepúe men prepared bundles of cochayuyo for the market. Cochayuyo is an edible alga collected in shallow water on the shores of the Pacific. The length of each bundle (approximately 18 inches) was measured by eye; the thickness included what a man could hold between both hands when tips of thumbs and fingers met.

Chilean linear measurements now in use, "because we have to deal with Chileans," are the pulgada, measured by distance from tip of thumb to first knuckle (approximately an inch); the vara (approximately 34 inches); the meter (39.37 inches); and the darea (approximately 42 by 47 feet).

The diameter of logs sold to lumber camps is measured in pulgadas and paid for on this basis. Fences are erected and paid for on the basis of vara. "To make certain that I shall always know where I can find the length of a vara, I measured one off on the singletree of my oxcart." Something I noticed other men had also done. I saw one man lay a stick on the singletree of his oxcart where he had marked off a vara, mark the stick and use it in measuring a fence. Vara were also marked off on ax handles.

The meter serves as a basis for linear and surface measurements in many instances when dealing with Chileans. Orders for woven throws and chospino and blankets to be sold in Chilean markets are given in meters. "But I do not always have a meter measure handy; I know that my wima is nearly a meter and I use it. Men usually know how many of their duke make a meter, and they then measure off in so many duke. My husband knows a meter is four of his fŭchi duke." A Chilean present at an interview remarked, "I know that from the earth to my belt, when I stand erect, measures a meter; but five of my complete hand stretches is also a meter." "Yes, five fŭchi duke," agreed an Araucanian. A darea, according to informants, is a measure used only at harvest time. "It is used in connection with a field of grain; it covers as much land as a man, who works conscientiously all day, can cut with a sickle. We never spoke of darea until the Spanish came here."

Quantity measures were pinches of various amounts and both single and joined handfuls. These were generally used in measuring herbs. Another measure was a cuplike implement made by cutting off the